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SECURITY INFORMATION

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SUBJECT

Airfields at Stara Zagora, Plovdiv,

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Telish, Mitropoliya, Vrazhdebna, Bozhurishte, and Slivnitsa

PLACE

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ACQUIRED

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Stara Zagora

- The Stara Zagora airfield, 1,200 x 600 meters in size, is located eight kilometers southeast of Stara Zagora. The terrain is only slightly permeable. The landing strips are being improved. A description of the field follows:
 - Barracks for 500 men;
 - Three cement hangars, 60 x 20 meters:
 - Railroad spur line, none;
 - Workshops, none;
 - Runways, 1,000 x 150 meters, of packed earth, north-south direction;
 - Apparatus to facilitate blind flying:
 - A radio station;
 - Radio direction finder;
 - Control tower;
 - Sleeve;
 - Fire fighting squad, 10-12 men;
 - Infirmary;

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- m. Repair crew, in each hangar;
- n. Automobiles, approximately 10 along the western side of the field;
- o. Fuel depots, not known;
- p. Arms depot, not known;
- q. Spare parts depot, none; and
- r. Five or six small planes.

Plovdiv

- 2. The Plovdiv airfield, 1,500 x 1,000 meters in size, is situated three kilometers southeast of the city. The terrain is permeable, despite the work carried out, and is not usable when there has been a hard rain. A description of the field follows:
 - a. Barracks for 350 men;
 - b. Four hangars, 70 x 30 meters;
 - c. Railroad spur line;
 - d. Workshops;
 - e. Runway dimensions and orientation not known;
 - f. Apparatus to facilitate blind flying;
 - g. Radio station;
 - h. Radio direction finder;
 - i. Control tower;
 - j. Sleeve;
 - k. Fire fighting squad;
 - Infirmary;
 - m. Repair crew, in each hangar;
 - n. Automobiles, southern end of the field;
 - Fuel depot, directly northeast of the field, underground, contains 250,000 liters;
 - p. Arms depot, not known;
 - q. Spare parts depot, none; and
 - r. Approximately 15 planes of various types; in the summer of 1951, approximately 50 planes arrived at the field.

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Telish

- 3. The Telish airfield is situated 200 meters northwest of Telish, northwest of the Pleven-Cherveni Bryag railroad. The field is 1,500 meters long and has a width of 1,000 meters in the center, 800 meters on the eastern side, and 600 meters on the western side. The grass-covered terrain is soft and permeable. A description of the field follows:
 - a. Barracks for 500 men, recently constructed;
 - b. Two hangars, 60 x 40 meters, recently constructed;
 - c. Workshops, none;
 - d. Railroad spur line, none;
 - e. Runway dimensions and orientation not known;
 - f. Apparatus to facilitate blind flying; often there are night flights;
 - g. Radio station, recently constructed;
 - h. Radio direction finder;
 - i. Control tower;
 - J. Sleeve;
 - k. Fire fighting squad; two new fire engines were received in August 1951;
 - 1. Infirmary, 200 meters from the southwest corner of the field;
 - m. Repair crew, in each hangar;
 - n. Automobile unit, directly east of the hangars;
 - o. Fuel depot, underground, approximately 200,000 liters, along the south-eastern side of the field;
 - p. Arms depot, just outside of the camp, on the western side;
 - q. Spare parts depot, none; and
 - r. Ten to 15 planes of various types.
- 4. In the beginning of September 1951, maintenance work was under way. There is a plan to construct a runway approximately 1,000 meters long in an east-west direction. Frequently, student pilots practice on the field in Yak 9 and JL 10 planes.

Mitropoliya

5. The Mitropoliya airfield is located on the southern outskirtant Doina Mitropoliya west of the Pleven-Nikopol railway. The airfield, 1,500 x 500 meters

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in size, is the headquarters of the Aeronautic Academy. The terrain is "very suitable." A description of the field follows:

- a. Barracks for 450 men, 200 of which were reserved for cadet officers;
- b. Four hangars, 70 x 40 meters;
- c. Railroad spur line, none;
- d. Workshops;
- e. Runway dimensions and orientation not known;
- f. Apparatus to facilitate blind flying;
- g. Radio station;
- h. Radio direction finder;
- i. Control tower;
- j. Sleeve;
- k. Fire fighting squad;
- 1. Infirmary;
- m. Repair crew;
- n. Automobiles, approximately 15 located behind the quarters for cadet officers;
- o. Fuel depot, more than 300,000 liters, underground, at the beginning of the north side of the field;
- p. Arms depot, directly west of the southwest corner of the field;
- q. Spare parts depot, none; and
- r. Ten to 15 airplanes of various types.

Vrazhdebna

- 6. Vrazhdebna airfield, which is used by both the civil and military, is situated six or seven kilometers east of Sofia, and one kilometer south of Vrazhdebna; the field is bordered on the east by the Iskur River. The dimensions of the field are two kilometers by 1,200 meters. The terrain is hard. The runway is being lengthened, and the lighting unit improved. A shelter is being constructed in the headquarters of the command located on the southern side of the field. A description of the field follows:
 - a. Barracks for 500 men, on the northern side of the field;
 - b. Four hangars, 70 x 30 meters;

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- c. Railroad spur line, none;
- d. Workshops;
- e. One cement runway, 1,200 x 200 meters, oriented in an east-west direction;
- f. Apparatus to facilitate blind flying;
- g. Radio station, one antenna;
- h. Radio direction finder;
- i. Control tower;
- j. Sleeve;
- k. Fire fighting squad;
- 1. Infirmary;
- m. Repair crew, in each hangar;
- n. Automobiles, approximately 20 located in the north corner of the field;
- Fuel depot, 200,000 liters, located underground in the northwest corner of the field;
- p. Munitions depot, not known;
- q. Spare parts depot, none; and
- r. Approximately 20 planes of various types, among which are two or three jets.

Bozhurishte

- 7. The Bozhurishte airfield, approximately 1,800 x 1,200 meters in size, is located 12 kilometers northwest of Sofia, north of the rail line to Bankya. The terrain is muddy. The runway and hangars are being improved. Small headquarter barracks are being constructed. A description of the field follows:
 - a. Barracks for 850 men;
 - b. Four hangars, 60 x 20 meters;
 - c. A railroad spur line;
 - d. Workshops, none;
 - e. One runway, dark colored;
 - f. Apparatus to facilitate blind flying;
 - g. Radio station;

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- h. Radio direction finder;
- i. Control tower;
- j. Sleeve;
- k. Fire fighting squad;
- 1. Infirmary, for first aid;
- m. Repair crew, one in each hangar;
- n. Automobiles;
- o. Fuel barrels situated along the southeast side of the field;
- p. Arms depot, slightly north of the field;
- q. Spare parts depot; and
- r. Approximately 10 planes.

Petrich

- 8. The Petrich airfield, 1,200 x 500 meters in size, is situated five kilometers east of Slivnitsa on the western outskirts of Petrich. The terrain is flat, grassy, and compact. One hangar was in the process of construction. A description of the field follows:
 - a. Barracks for 200 men;
 - b. Hangars, none;
 - c. Railroad spur line, none;
 - d. Workshops, none;
 - e. Runway dimensions and orientation, not known;
 - f. Apparatus to facilitate blind flying, none;
 - g. Radio station, none;
 - h. Radio direction finder, none;
 - i. Control tower, none;
 - j. Sleeve;
 - k. Fire fighting squad, none;
 - Dispensary;
 - m. Repair squads, none;
 - n. Automobiles, none;

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- o. Fuel depot, not known;
- p. Arms depot, not known;
- q. Spare parts depot, none; and
- r. Planes land occasionally.